



Fitness “Ropes” Course Utilizes Recycled Tire Rubber Nuggets

“The benefits of the recycled tire mulch are so much greater than the wood mulch we used to have. I just really couldn’t be happier.”

- Rob Kroff, Program Manager, Venture Challenge Course

Location: Venture Academy Charter School, Stockton, CA



Vendor: Sierra Mat & Rubber Company

California tires diverted from landfills: 30,000

Overview: Venture Academy Charter School’s fitness “ropes” course was designed to help students and local groups practice team-building skills, foster trust with their peers, and boost self-esteem while encouraging physical fitness. Prior to 2012, the fitness “ropes” course used shredded tree bark. According to course Program Manager, Rob Kroff, the bark had sharp edges, packed down and strained course visitors’ ankles when they jumped down onto the surface.

Over time, the tree bark broke down into dust which facilitated weed growth. Rob Kroff shared, “I’d leave for a three-week vacation and when I returned the weeds would be out